

1. (Twice Amended) A stable calcium phosphate complex comprising phosphopeptide-stabilized amorphous calcium fluoride phosphate or a derivative thereof wherein said phosphopeptide includes the amino acid sequence Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Glu-Glu (SEQ ID NO: 5) and calcium fluoride phosphate or the derivative thereof is alkaline.

4. (Twice Amended) A complex according to claim 3 wherein said phosphopeptide includes an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(SEQ ID NO: 1) Gln⁵⁹-Met-Glu-Ala-Glu-Ser(P)-Ile-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Glu-Ile-Val-Pro-Asn-Ser(P)-Val-Glu-Gln-Lys⁷⁹[.] α_{s1} (59-79);

(SEQ ID NO: 2) Arg¹-Glu-Leu-Glu-Glu-Leu-Asn-Val-Pro-Gly-Glu-Ile-Val-Glu-Ser(P)-Leu-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Glu-Glu-Ser-Ile-Thr-Arg²⁵[.] β (1-25);

(SEQ ID NO: 3) Asn⁴⁶-Ala-Asn-Glu-Glu-Glu-Tyr-Ser-Ile-Gly-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Glu-Glu-Ser(P)-Ala-Glu-Val-Ala-Thr-Glu-Glu-Val-Lys⁷⁰ α_{s2} (46-70); and

(SEQ ID NO: 4) Lys¹-Asn-Thr-Met-Glu-His-Val-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Glu-Glu-Ser-Ile-Ile-Ser(P)-Gln-Glu-Thr-Tyr-Lys²¹ α_{s2} (1-21).

7. (Twice Amended) A stable soluble alkaline calcium phosphate complex comprising phosphopeptide-stabilized amorphous calcium phosphate [or a derivative thereof] wherein said phosphopeptide includes the amino acid sequence Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Glu-Glu (SEQ ID NO: 5) and said amorphous calcium phosphate [or the derivative thereof] is alkaline.

9. (Twice Amended) A complex according to claim 41, wherein the formula further includes $\text{HPO}_4^{(2-)}$.

10. (Twice Amended) A complex according to claim 9 wherein said phosphopeptide includes an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(SEQ ID NO: 1) Gln⁵⁹-Met-Glu-Ala-Glu-Ser(P)-Ile-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Glu-Ile-Val-Pro-Asn-Ser(P)-Val-Glu-Gln-Lys⁷⁹ α_{s1} (59-79);

(SEQ ID NO: 2) Arg¹-Glu-Leu-Glu-Glu-Leu-Asn-Val-Pro-Gly-Glu-Ile-Val-Glu-Ser(P)-Leu-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Glu-Glu-Ser-Ile-Thr-Arg²⁵ β (1-25);

(SEQ ID NO: 3) Asn⁴⁶-Ala-Asn-Glu-Glu-Glu-Tyr-Ser-Ile-Gly-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Glu-Glu-Ser(P)-Ala-Glu-Val-Ala-Thr-Glu-Glu-Val-Lys⁷⁰ α_{s2} (46-70); and

(SEQ ID NO: 4) Lys¹-Asn-Thr-Met-Glu-His-Val-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Glu-Glu-Ser-Ile-Ile-Ser(P)-Gln-Glu-Thr-Tyr-Lys²¹ α_{s2} (1-21).

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* 11. (Twice Amended) A complex according to claim 9 wherein said phosphopeptide includes the amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 1):

Gln⁵⁹-Met-Glu-Ala-Glu-Ser(P)-Ile-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Glu-Ile-Val-Pro-Asn-Ser(P)-Val-Glu-Gln-Lys⁷⁹ α_{s1} (59-79).

4891 w/p RAN 15. (Twice Amended) A method of producing a stable alkaline calcium phosphate complex having a pH of about 9.0 comprising the steps of:

26 (i) obtaining an aqueous solution of a phosphopeptide which has a pH of about 9.0, wherein said phosphopeptide includes the amino acid sequence Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Ser(P)-Glu-Glu (SEQ ID NO: 5);

(ii) admixing the solution of step (i) with solutions comprising calcium, and inorganic phosphate and optionally fluoride at a pH of about 9.0;

(iii) filtering the mixture resulting from step (ii);

(iv) drying the mixture of step (iii), and

(v) isolating the stable alkaline calcium phosphate complex.

25. (Amended) A method of inhibiting dental caries or tooth decay comprising administering a complex according to claim 7 to the teeth or gums of a subject in need of such treatment.

Please add the following claims:

41. A complex according to claim 7 wherein said amorphous calcium phosphate is of the approximate formula $[\text{Ca}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_x]$, wherein $x \geq 1$.

42. A complex according to claim 11, which has the formula $[(\text{PP})(\text{CP})_8]_n$, wherein n is equal to or greater than 1, "PP" represents said phosphopeptide, and "CP" represents calcium phosphate.

43. A complex according to claim 42, which has the formula $[(\text{PP})(\text{CP})_8]_6$, wherein "PP" and "CP" are as defined in claim 42.

44. A method for promoting calcium absorption in a subject suffered from a condition related to calcium loss from the body, calcium deficiency, or calcium malabsorption comprising administering a complex according to claim 7 to the subject.

45. The method of claim 48, wherein said condition is osteoporosis or osteomalacia.

46. A composition useful for inhibiting cariogenesis, comprising a dentifrice and a complex according to claim 7 in an amount effective to inhibit cariogenesis.

47. The composition of claim 44, wherein said dentifrice is selected from the group consisting of toothpaste, toothpowder, a liquid dentifrice, mouthwash, a troche, chewing gum, dental paste, gingival massage cream and a gargle tablets.

48. A composition useful for inhibiting cariogenesis, comprising a foodstuff and a complex according to claim 7 in an amount effective to inhibit cariogenesis.

49. The composition according to claim 46, wherein said foodstuff is a dairy product.